

ALTERATION OF RIFLE:

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD.

—It is generally known in military circles that the new rifle, with which our defensive forces are armed, is being altered so as to enable it to carry the Martini-Henry ammunition, known as the "bottle-shaped cartridge." This necessitates an enlargement of the breech-chamber of the Henry rifle, as at present used, the breech is closed by a block having a vertical action. I say closed, but in a slight opening at the upper side of the block exists, which is filled up with the rim of the cartridge case. With defective cartridge case at the breech and there is an

Henry rifle, as at present used, the bolt having a vertical action. I say

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On such hard terms. On the 18th of December last the convention came to a close; but at the instance of the Government here, the authorities in Sydney promptly assented to its extension for one month. That period is now drawing to a close, and we presume that negotiations for a further extension of the permanent removal of the under-privileged will be commenced. It is so manifestly to the advantage of both parties that the arrangement should be maintained, that nothing but a hopeless disagreement as to terms is likely to result so desirable a result. Through its continuance we should be enabled to export our produce and to import our necessities upon equal terms, and without incurring debts upon which, after all, we are very limited. And, South Australian merchants are relieved from delays and petty vexations which are inseparable from the levy of frontier duties.

Nowhere are we happier than from the *Sydney Morning Herald*.

amounting from a New South Wales point of view to £100,000, as the terms upon which a renewal of the Convention was to be made, the direct expensing is made as the amount to be claimed in the year in which the payment is to be taken into account in fixing the payment are the same. There can be no doubt that the sum contributed by South Australia to the Convention is actually due, although in the absence of more explicit evidence, the descriptions of goods sent overland by Victoria and this country are not so explicit as to show that the gain to South Australia was as much as it must have been, £20,000 were so, but by no means follows that the gain to New South Wales was £100,000. It is a payment to be borne in mind that during the last year of the 1877 trade of the Murray was exceptionally disturbed, that the principal trading merchants, who adopted that route for a number of articles, were obliged to send into Riverina in consequence of the South Australian Government's refusal to allow New South Wales to trade with the Riverina and the Riverina of New South Wales. In no sense a light was this regarded by the Sydney Government that before agreeing to a renewal of the Convention, it was necessary to make the New South Australian trade to bring it now in accordance with law, and as a matter of fact several modifications were made in the Convention, and the goods which were realized was iron wire, the duty on which, was, in 1876, diminished to that of 1877 Victoria; a second was realized in the duty on the goods which were realized in the New Harbour trade for 1877 Victoria has also sending large quantities of these articles by way of the Murray, and the goods which were realized in the New South Wales from New South Wales. South Australia are the same as in 1877 that they were in 1876. We are prepared to say that the Convention of 1876 was a year covered by the £250,000 arrangement will be less than the year before; but they are not likely to exhibit anything like the same amount of goods as in 1876, marked the operations of 1876 over those of 1875. There are two other considerations which should not be overlooked in the statement of terms, although they have no wish to go into them. First, the Convention of 1876 was a year covered by the £250,000 arrangement will be less than the year before; but they are not likely to exhibit anything like the same amount of goods as in 1876, marked the operations of 1876 over those of 1875. There are two other considerations which should not be overlooked in the statement of terms, although they have no wish to go into them. First, the Convention of 1876 was a year covered by the £250,000 arrangement will be less than the year before; but they are not likely to exhibit anything like the same amount of goods as in 1876, marked the operations of 1876 over those of 1875.

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